



Valley Mountain Regional Center
702 N. Aurora Street, Stockton, CA 95202

Board of Director Meeting
Minutes, June 13, 2016

Present:

Robert Balderama	✓	Nancy Meier	✓
S. Rush Bailey	✓	Rick Moen	✓
Tom Bowe	✓	Paula Newman	✓
John Forrest	✓	Dena Pfeifer	✓
Melinda Gonser	--	Andrea Rueda	✓
Robert Grimsley	✓	Chris Varela	✓
Ivan Johnson	✓	Eric Ybarra	✓
Claire Lazaro	✓	Candice Bright (CLASP)	✓
Tom Martin	✓		

VMRC Staff: Paul Billodeau, Cindy Mix, Claudia Reed, Gordon Hofer, Bill Rutgers, Mary Duncan, Cindy Strawderman

Visitors: Dena Hernandez (North Valley Hills Office), Allan Smith (DDS), Tawnya Jolley, friend of Robert Balderama, facilitators Jacqueline Price, Anna Garcia, Lori Smith, Cris Sugabo, and Theresa Vasquez.

Board Vice President, Eric Ybarra, called the Board meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

A. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were made and VMRC's Mission Statement was read by Claire Lazaro.

B. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

M/S/C (LAZARO/PFEIFER) to approve the agenda with the correction of "next meeting Monday July 11 at 4:00p.m."

C. ADOPTION OF CONSENT CALENDAR

M/S/C (GRIMSLEY/MARTIN) to accept the May 9, 2016 minutes as presented.

D. VOTE TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING

From the Finance and Personnel Committee:

- Acceptance of Contract Status Report through May 2016
- **M/S/C (GRIMSLEY/LAZARO) to approve the Contract Status Report through March 2016.**

- Approval of Contract over \$250,000
M/S/C (GRIMSLEY/LAZARO) to approve the contract over \$250,000. One abstention, Candice Bright.
- Approval of Preliminary Contract for FY 2016 -2017
- **M/S/C (GRIMSLEY/LAZARO) to approve the Preliminary Contract for FY 2016-2017.**

E. ANNOUNCEMENTS & PUBLIC COMMENT

Dena Hernandez, Regional Manager of the North Valley Hills Office, distributed flyers for the following:

- Latest Assembly Bills State Council on Developmental Disabilities supports
- Save the date for UCP Rummage event. Friday July 8, from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at 7616 Pacific Avenue, Suite A6, Stockton
- Association of Retarded Citizens Players 9th Annual Talent Show “Las Vegas Style Review” Friday, July, 22nd at 1:00 p.m. at the Jackson Rancheria Grand Oaks Ballroom.
- Save the date for “The Brighter Side of Down Syndrome” (TBODS) 2nd Annual Conference “Best Practices in the Education of Children with Down Syndrome”. October 3, 2016 at the San Joaquin County Office of Education, 2707 Transworld Drive, Stockton.

F. PRESENTATION:

There was no presentation this month

G. BOARD MEMBER PROGRAM VISITS:

Rush Bailey, visited the GAIT clinic at Modesto’s VMRC office. This was his first visit to the clinic. Mallory Z, from the Hangar Clinic (Prosthetic and Orthotics) and Vickie McKinnon, Physical Therapist from UCP were present. It was impressive how the clinic was organized. His only concern is that there was no Physician present for input. Overall they are doing a great job.

H. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT:

Paul announced he had just spoken to Melinda, she was doing very well. Her surgery was last Thursday. Many of you heard that she had injured herself. A plant was sent to her and Paula Newman will be routing a card at today’s board meeting for the board members to sign.

Ann Cirimele, Executive Director of the Family Resource Network, has announced her retirement at the end of June. The VMRC Board invited her to the July Board meeting and Annual dinner. She is planning to attend the Board meeting but is not able to stay for the dinner. On behalf of the Board and VMRC, Paul will write a letter to her, recognizing her years of service and contributions she has made to the field of developmental disabilities in the VMRC catchment area.

At the June board meeting Paul will present two proposals relating to increases in staff salaries based on the allocation of funds as a result of the Managed Care Organization (MCO) Tax Reform. One of the proposals will be for a 12% salary increase for bargaining unit staff members, and another for a 12% salary increase for management and non-union employees. There are two parts to the MCO Reform package, one is to increase benefits and wages for regional center staff, in an effort to be more competitive in hiring and retaining employees and the other provides rate increases to specified vendors. Paul shared with the Board that, this is the first time in 35 years that there was adequate funding to provide double-digit salary increases to staff. The Executive Director and Chief Financial Officer are not eligible for a salary increase from the MCO allocation.

Two of the three active shooter safety trainings have been provided to staff in the Stockton office. Another training session has been scheduled for later in the month. The training is being provided by a Stockton Police Department Lieutenant, and was well received by staff that attended the training. This is a mandatory training that staff from all offices is required to attend. VMRC is contracting with a consultant to evaluate the Stockton office and make recommendations on measures that VMRC can take to ensure as safe an environment as possible for staff, consumers, families and visitors while they are at the VMRC offices. In addition, there will be similar evaluations done at the Modesto and San Andreas offices.

Paul referenced the supplemental packet and pointed out that it contained the proposed slate of officers for 2016-2017, as well as, new board members to be voted on at this meeting. In addition, the California state audit fact sheet referencing the requirements for Board approval of contracts over \$250,000 is included in the packet. This item will be discussed at the next Board meeting when Melinda is able to attend.

Paul announced that he will be retiring at the end of the year. He shared his decision with the Executive Committee at their meeting last week. An Executive Director Search Committee will be established by the President of the Board. The committee will include, Board Members as well as, stakeholder representatives. Board members that volunteered to be on the ED Search Committee are, Candice Bright (vendor), Dena Hernandez (SCDD), Dena Pfeifer (consumer representative), John Forrest (parent and community member). Please let Paul or Melinda know if you are interested in being on the ED Search Committee. Bill Rutgers will be providing staff support to the Search Committee.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

i. Consumer Services Committee (Paula Newman, Chair)

Paula provided a summary of today's committee meeting as follows:

- Autism Service Standards. The Committee discussed the Autism Service Standards as items that need to be updated. The committee requested that Mary Sheehan, Clinical Director, review with her staff and bring back recommendations to the Consumer Services Committee at the September meeting. It was recommended that committee members familiarize themselves with the Service Standards by reviewing them on the VMRC website. Carmen Hill, Director of Resource Development, reported that 3 CPP grants were awarded for different levels of homes. A proposal was not received for the 4th so the grant was rewritten for a Continuous Nursing Facility.

- Anthony Hill. Provided the Quality Assurance report to the committee. The report showed there were 83 alerts opened in the last 3 months and 51 alerts were closed. There were no alerts that were open for more than 90 days.
- An acronym listing was distributed to committee members and other attendees.
- A workgroup is being assigned to initiate steps to enhance Person-Centered Thinking and Planning. The workgroup will develop a Consumer Profile with Case Management Tools for Service Coordinators. The Consumer Services Committee will review prior to implementation.
- Learning Management Services (LMS) an on-line training system will be implemented soon for the purpose of training staff, vendors and families. (List of trainings are available)
- ABX2-1 will provide \$20M statewide for Internships and Incentives for consumers to access employment opportunities. . Various committees are working on guidelines and processes in order to provide the service.
- The State Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) will no longer be approving sub-minimum wage employment for permanent positions. Beginning in July, consumers must work in integrated settings with minimum wage or above. In 2017, two Summer Academies will be offered by DOR, as well as, a College to Career program
- VMRC , received 100 of 300 forms requested from DMV for Reduced-Fee or Free IDs.
- A statewide SLS Ad-Hoc Committee will be rolling out a position statement in an effort to have consistency among all regional centers in relation to SLS. The position statement will be shared with Consumer Services Committee when it's approved.
- VMRC received a proposal to develop a Book Depository at all 3 VMRC offices. A large donation of various books prompted the idea. A contest will be held to have day programs decorate the book boxes.
- Community Outreach:
 - May 7, 2016 -Turlock Unified-RAISE Festival
 - May 12, 2016-Transitional Information Night @ SJCOE
 - Residence Fairs—Angie Shear
 - May 26, 2016 - Sierra Vista Homes
 - June 2, 2016 - Conway Homes
 - June 9, 2016 – Thornton Homes
 - June 16 2016 – Tracy Homes
 - June 22 -Stanislaus County Office of Education.—Foster Care and Childcare Workers
- Transportation was added to the Consumer Services Committee agenda as a standing item. The committee has many concerns regarding Rapid Transit District (RTD) services for people with developmental disabilities. Wilma Murray, Transportation Coordinator for VMRC gave the committee an update on outstanding concerns. She will work with Robert Balderama and Robert Grimsley will create a list of concerns so she can discuss with RTD's new director. Wilma passed out an "Unmet Transit Needs" flyer. It was sent to all VMRC consumers. There is also a website that consumers can go to, to voice their concerns. www.sjcog.org

The full minutes of this meeting will be included with the July board meeting packet.

ii. VMRC Consumer Advisory Committee Report
(Dena Pfeifer, SAC6 Representative)

- The SAC 6 board meeting was held on Saturday, June 11 at Valley Caps Manteca.
- SAC 6 members approved the organizations business goals for the new contract year. Dena will provide a presentation to the Board regarding the goals at an upcoming meeting.
- SAC 6 Board members shared their experience from the Statewide Self Advocacy conference and updated us on the sessions they attended. About 375 people attended the event.

Save the date Friday, August 5 is the next SAC 6 area meeting which will be held at Turner Park in San Andreas.

iii. Finance and Personnel Committee
(John Forrest, Treasurer)

John Forrest reported that the committee met last Wednesday and apart from the items voted on earlier in this meeting, the committee reviewed the May minutes, and the June HR report and June Caseload Report. The Finance and Personnel Committee discussed the proposed Workers Compensation Contract. The complete details including the cost will be available June 16th. Bill Rutgers, Human Resources Director will provide the information to the Executive Committee for approval prior to the expiration of the current contract.

The next Finance and Personnel Committee will be July 6, 2016 at 5:30 in the Stockton Office of VMRC.

iv. Executive Committee
(Paul Billodeau, VMRC Executive Director)

Paul reported that at the Executive Committee meeting on Wednesday there was discussion regarding Board approval of contracts over \$250,000. Paul has contacted other regional centers to determine how they are interpreting the statute and directive from the Department of Developmental Services that was distributed to regional centers in 2011. In an effort to ensure VMRC is complying with the statute and directive, there are several documents included in the board packet regarding this issue. The Executive Committee will be taking up this issue at their meeting in July.

Paul announced there will be an Executive Session at the end of the Board meeting to in which he will provide information to the Board on the proposed salary increases for union employees, as well as, non-represented employees and managers.

Self-determination advisory committee, will be on August 30, 2016 at 6:00 in the VMRC Stockton Office. One of the Statewide Providers of the Fiscal intermediary agency may be attending.

The Executive Committee reviewed the nominations that were received for the Communitàs Award. There were two nominations submitted. The Executive Committee selected a recipient for this year's award. The recipient and their guest will be invited to attend the July Board meeting and the annual dinner.

The Executive Committee approved waiving the one month information period for the vote for the slate of officers for 2016-2017 along with nominations for appointment of 3 new board members

v. Strategic Planning Committee
(Paul Billodeau, VMRC Executive Director)

There are no updates at this time.

vi. Nominating Committee
(Tom Bowe, Chair)

The committee met and recommended the appointment of 3 new board members. Two of which previously served on the board and are returning after being off the board for a year, Jose Garcia and Pernell Gutierrez. Ingrid Wilson was presented as a nominee as a new board member that has not previously served on the Board.

M/S/C (EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE/LAZARO) to accept the 3 new board members.

Re-appointment of the following board members Robert Balderama and Ivan Johnson for their second 3 year term. Melinda Gonser and Robert Grimsley for one additional year.

M/S/C (EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE/VARELA) to accept the re-appointment of board members.

The slate of officers was presented to the Board for additional nominations and a vote. The slate of officers is as follows: Melinda Gonser, President; Robert Grimsley, Vice President; Secretary Chris Varela; and Treasurer Tom Bowe were approved by the board.

M/S/C (EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE/VARELA) to accept the slate of officers.

At this time, the Nominating Committee is recommending that the remaining seat on the board remain open until such time additional applications are submitted that will support the requirements' for board composition.

vii. VMRC Professional Advisory Committee
(Candice Bright, CLASP Representative)

Candice advised she did not make it to the CLASP Meeting in May, so she does not have a report this month. She did address the vendor concerns regarding the rate increases as a result of the Managed Care Organization tax reform. The Department of Developmental Services sent out surveys for vendors to complete in order for the Department to determine what the rate increases will be.

The next CLASP meeting is Thursday, June 15, 2016, at 9:00am at the VMRC offices in Stockton.

viii. Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA)
(Melinda Gonser/Paul Billodeau)

The next ARCA meeting will be in Sacramento on June 16/17. This will be the Annual ARCA meeting. The program for the dinner will be a celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Lanterman Act which will include a guest speaker and a video entitled, "What the Lanterman Act Means to Me." Paul will be attending this meeting and will provide an update at the July board meeting.

I. OTHER MATTERS:

The board went into Executive Session to discuss employee salary and benefit issues. This was an informational session only with no action being taken. The HR Director and Chief Financial Officer were made available in the event board members had any questions.

J. NEXT MEETING:

The next board meeting will be held on **Monday, July 11, 2016, at 4:00 pm** at the VMRC office with the Board's Annual dinner to follow. The meeting and dinner will be held at the VMRC offices in Stockton, in the Cohen Conference Rooms.

K. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 7:13 pm.